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Patent

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): David Murray BANKS,  
et al. ) Re: Information Disclosure  
Serial No.: 10/632,123 ) Statement  
Filed: July 30, 2003 ) Group: 2133  
For: "IDENTIFYING UNCORRECTABLE )  
CODEWORDS IN A REED-SOLOMON ) Examiner: not yet assigned  
DECODER FOR ERRORS AND ERASURES" ) Our Ref: B-5182 621126-9  
 ) Date: June 10, 2004

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria VA, 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the Applicants' duty to disclose information which may be material to the examination of this application, the undersigned respectfully requests that the Examiner consider on the merits the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 (modified) before issuing the first Office Action on the merits. Copies of the foreign patent documents and the non-patent publications listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 (modified) are enclosed herewith for the Examiner's convenience. Copies of the U.S. patent documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 (modified) are not enclosed, pursuant to Deputy Commissioner Stephen G. Kunin's Pre OG Notice dated July 11, 2003, with the exception of U.S. Patent Application No. 10/632,125 and 10/632,130 because they have not yet been published.

It should be noted that the above-identified application may be related by subject matter to the following U.S. Application(s): 10/632,125, filed July 30, 2003; and 10/632,130, filed July 30, 2003. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.56(a) and M.P.E.P. 2004, paragraph 9, the applicant brings these co-pending applications to the attention of the Examiner. The Examiner should consider this information during the prosecution of the above-identified application. However, citation of these applications does not

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constitute an admission that the claims of the present application are substantially similar or similar to those of the applications listed above.

The documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 (modified) include those cited in the United Kingdom Search Report for the corresponding United Kingdom Patent Application No. EP 0217791.3. A copy of the Search Report (3 pages) is enclosed herewith.

The documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 (modified) include those cited in the United Kingdom Search Report for a related United Kingdom Patent Application No. EP 0217797.0. A copy of the Search Report (2 pages) is enclosed herewith.

The documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 (modified) include those cited in the United Kingdom Search Report for a related United Kingdom Patent Application No. EP 0217847.3. A copy of the Search Report (4 pages) is enclosed herewith.

European Document No. 0 133 137 A1 is not in English. A concise English-language explanation of the relevance of European Document No. 0 133 137 A1 can be found in the enclosed English-language abstract.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made (37 C.F.R. 1.97(g)), an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability, or that no other material information exists.

The Applicants believe that this IDS is being submitted before the issuance of a first Office Action on the merits and before the

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issuance of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance. Therefore, no official fees should be due; and this IDS should be considered on the merits. If this IDS is being submitted after the issuance of the first Office Action on the merits and before the issuance of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, please contact the undersigned to authorize a payment of \$180.00 (or any other required amount), which is the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c), if the Examiner believes that such a fee is due in order for this IDS to be considered on the merits.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner. (Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13-25, at 25.)

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The person making this statement is the practitioner who signs below on the basis of information supplied by an individual associated with the filing and prosecution of this application (37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c)) and on the basis of information in the practitioner's file.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to the "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450", on June 10, 2004 by Shana Morda.



Respectfully submitted,



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Enclosures: Form PTO-1449 (modified) (2 pages)  
Copy of Search Report for GB 0217791.3 (3 pages)  
Copy of Search Report for GB 0217797.0 (2 pages)  
Copy of Search Report for GB 0217847.3 (4 pages)  
Copy of Non-U.S. Patent documents listed on Form PTO-1449 (modified), with the exception of U.S. Patent Application No. 10/632,125 and 10/632,130



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<b>LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS STATEMENT</b>	<b>APPLICANTS</b> David Murray Banks, et al.	
	<b>FILING DATE</b> July 30, 2003	<b>GROUP</b> 2133

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	ISSUE DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	FILING DATE or 102(e) DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	10/632,125		Banks			07/30/2003
	10/632,130		Banks et al.			07/30/2003
	4,868,828	9/1989	Shao et al.	371	5.1	
	5,099,482	3/1992	Cameron	371	37.1	
	5,130,990	7/1992	Hsu et al.	371	37.1	
	5,170,399	12/1992	Cameron et al.	371	37.1	
	5,323,402	6/1994	Vaccaro et al.	371	37.1	
	5,373,511	12/1994	Veksler	371	37.4	
	5,377,207	12/1994	Perlman	371	37.1	
	5,642,367	6/1997	Kao	371	40.1	
	5,715,262	2/1998	Gupta	371	37.1	
	5,771,244	6/1998	Reed et al.	371	37.01	
	5,996,103	11/1999	Jahanghir	714	755	
	6,131,178	10/2000	Fujita et al.	714	784	
	6,347,389 B1	2/2002	Boyer	714	784	

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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	<b>FILING DATE</b> July 30, 2003	<b>GROUP</b> 2133

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

	DOCUMENT NUMBER	PUBLICATION DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO
	0 133 137 A1	08/1985	EP			abstract
	0 296 828 A2	12/1988	EP			
	0 620 654 A2	10/1994	EP			
	0 918 334 A2	05/1999	EP			
	97/00559	01/1997	WO			

**OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)**

Berlekamp, E., et al., "A Hypersystolic Reed-Solomon Decoder," <i>Reed-Solomon Codes and Their Applications</i> , IEEE Press, New York, pp. 205-241 (1994).
Berlekamp, E., "Bit-Serial Reed-Solomon Encoders," <i>IEEE Transactions on Information Theory</i> , Vol. IT-28, No. 6, pp. 869-874 (November 1982).
Berlekamp, E., "Bounded Distance + 1 Soft-Decision Reed-Solomon Decoding," <i>IEEE Transactions on Information Theory</i> , Vol. 42, No. 3, pp. 704-720 (May 1996).

<u>EXAMINER</u>	<u>DATE CONSIDERED</u>

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